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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,058	08/06/2001	David S. Becker	MCRO284--2/LWT	1840
7590	03/11/2004		EXAMINER	
Terril G. Lewis HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP 750 Bering Drive Houston, TX 77057-2198			GOUDEAU, GEORGE A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1763	

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/923,058	BECKER ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	George A. Goudreau	1763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11-21-03' to 1-15-04'.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 30-123 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 30-123 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

*George A. Goudreau*  
**GEORGE GOUDREAU**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

*3-5-04'*

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Claims 30-123 are allowed.
2. In regards to the IDS statements which were previously submitted by the applicant, the examiner requests that applicant supply the examiner with copies of all of the references where were lined through so that the examiner may evaluate applicant's claims in the pending application against this body of prior art. The examiner will make this action non-final in order to give applicant adequate time to submit copies of all of these references to the examiner for review. (In regards to applicant's comments that the examiner has previously initialed IDS statements which list all of the documents which were lined through by the examiner on the previously submitted IDS statements, please note the following. Applicant has submitted numerous documents for review by the examiner, both in this application as well as in related applications. The examiner does not currently have access to the documents which were lined out by the examiner on the IDS statements. The examiner requires applicant's assistance in obtaining copies of these documents in order to ensure that a proper patentability decision may be made by the examiner in the pending application. Further, the examiner cannot remember the contents of every piece of prior art which he has read while employed at the PTO.)
3. The examiner requests that applicant submits any updated copies of any legal findings in a court regarding this application or related applications (i.e.-issued patents) so that the examiner may review such documents. (Applicant has previously submitted to the examiner for review court documents regarding patents which issued from

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applications related to the current application. The examiner needs copies of any other related legal documents which have not yet been submitted to the examiner for review.)

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to examiner

George A. Goudreau at telephone number 571-272-1434.

*George A. Goudreau*  
George A. Goudreau  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1763